Constitution of Federal Investigation Agency

†1780. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a federal investigation agency is proposed to be constituted to investigate the terrorist incidents as well as to take effective action thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether State Governments agree with the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The issue of setting up of a federal/central investigating agency to enable investigation of selected cases of terrorism that may have Inter-State or International linkages and pose a direct threat to the national security, and related crimes such as hijacking, Fake Indian Currency Notes from outside the country, *etc.*, has been under consideration of Government in consultation with State Governments and the Law Ministry, *etc.* It is now proposed to bring in a Bill for legislation in this regard.

Terror attack on Mumbai

†1781. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that terrorists reached Mumbai *via* sea route from Karachi to execute the incident of terror attacks on Mumbai in November, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had this information in the past years that terrorists will use sea route to enter India; and

(d) if so, the time when Government had received this information in the past and the additional security arrangements made following this information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) A series of terrorist attacks involving indiscriminate firing, throwing of grenades and bomb blasts at 13 locations, including Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Leopold Caf, Taj Hotel, Oberoi-Trident Hotel and a building called 'Nariman House, took place in Mumbai BETWEEN 26 AND 29 November, 2008. According to information gathered during the course of investigation so far, 10 Pakistani nationals belonging to the Lashkar-e-Toiba, a proscribed terrorist outfit, had left Karachi on November 23, 2008; boarded a launch by the name of *Al-Hussaini*; accosted and hijacked an Indian fishing vessel, *M.V. Kuber*, killed its occupants;

and a few miles short of the coast of Mumbai abandoned the fishing vessel, got into an inflatable rubber dinghy, and landed near Budhwar Park, Colaba, Mumbai between 8.00 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on November 26, 2008.

(c) and (d) In the context of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, Intelligence regarding the possibility of infiltration by a suspected LeT vessel through the sea route had been shared with the Coast Guard and the Navy. The coordinates of the vessel placed it well within the territorial waters of Pakistan. Efforts were nevertheless made by both of these organisations, including deploying vessels and aircraft in the zone, but in the absence of any further specific inputs or information, no further action could be taken on the basis of available information. Steps are being taken on a continuing basis to review and strengthen/streamline the arrangements and modalities for sharing of intelligence with, and operational coordination among various agencies and with the States. The matter has been further reviewed in the light of the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai and steps are being taken to make the mechanisms for gathering and sharing of intelligence more effective and result oriented.

Informations on communal elements from States

†1782. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recently urged State Governments to provide information on communal elements;

(b) if so, the time when this request was made and the reasons for request thistime round;

(c) whether information thereto has been received from State Governments; and

(d) if so, the names of the States and time and type of information furnished by them respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request was made in November, 2008, as in the preceding few months, widespread communal tension and incidents of communal violence of varying intensities had been witnessed in different parts of the country.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Pension to freedom fighters from Telangana region

†1783. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.